

NSC BRIEFING

19 July 1960

JAPAN

- I. Major task facing new Japanese cabinet headed by Prime Minister Hayato Ikeda will be preparation for new elections expected this fall or early next year.

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1. Absence of top factional leaders from cabinet indicates enduring coalition not yet achieved.
2. Cabinet includes promising newcomers as foreign and labor ministers.

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- II. Ikeda is proponent of strong action, has good record in economic field, but must move cautiously to avoid attacks from within his party
- A. Major policy changes not expected, but new government may extend feelers to Communist China for improved trade relations.
  - B. Ikeda, like Kishi, may be unable to cope effectively with leftist mob violence.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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